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Research Note The Cairns/Far North Region Records Strong Growth in Manufacturing

Recently released figures by the Australian Bureau of Statistics indicate the strong growth that took place in manufacturing in the region over the period 2001/02 to 2006/07.

The 2006/07 figures indicate that the region continues to lead northern Australia in manufacturing locations.

Sales and service income received by the region's manufacturing locations grew by almost 200% over the period to reach \$3.28bn with the figure closing up on the mineral processing regions of Fitzroy/Gladstone region \$3.60bn, and Townsville/Northern region \$4.26bn.

Although the Queensland Darling Downs and Wide Bay regions have more manufacturing locations recorded, their manufacturing income is lower at \$2.4bn and \$1.05bn.

In understanding the figures, it should be borne in mind that sales and service income can include some wholesaling/retailing of equipment, parts not manufactured by the firm, etc. It also includes the gross value of processed mining and agricultural products.

Manufacturing Composition, Far North Statistical Division, 2006/07	
	Locations *
Food, Beverages, Tobacco	133
Textile clothing, Footwear, Leather	64
Wood & Paper product	85
Printing, Publishing & Recycling media	59
Petroleum, Coal, Chemical & assoc products	49
Non-Metallic Mineral products	36
Metal products	206
Machinery & Equipment	219
Other Manufacturing	111
Total	962
Total Wages & Salaries	\$311 m
Total Income, Sales & Service	\$3,280 m
Increase in Value, Wages & Salaries – 2001/02 to 2006/07	+62%*
Increase in Total Sales & Service Income - 2001/02 to 2006/07	+193%*

No. of Locations & Income Compared

▪ Far North	962	\$3,280 m	▪ Darling Downs	990	\$2,442 m
▪ North	653	\$4,260 m	▪ Wide Bay/Burnett	1053	\$1,836 m
▪ Mackay	585	\$1,648 m	▪ Northern Territory	506	np
▪ Fitzroy	586	\$3,600 m	▪ Kimberley/Pilbara	197	np

Source: Cummings Economics from ABS Cat 82210).

**Note: The 2006/07 figures exclude a number of very small operations, eg. photocopying that have now been transferred to classifications other than manufacturing. This means that comparisons with 2001/02 figures for wages, salaries and sales would exaggerate marginally the growth that has occurred.*